



City of South Fulton Legislative Update

December 8, 2020

I. ORDINANCE REQUIRING SOCIAL DISTANCING AT RESTAURANTS WITHIN THE CITY OF SOUTH FULTON; PROVIDING FOR INCREASED COVID-19 PROTECTIONS AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES

Sponsor: Mayor William “Bill” Edwards

Date Adopted: Dec. 8, 2020

Justification

- The City and governments across the world are responding in an emergency capacity to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus (“COVID-19”).
- Georgia remains under a State of Emergency from COVID-19, with the number of new cases and related deaths increasing daily throughout Fulton County and several other counties within Georgia.
- It is vitally important that City residents, businesses and guests work together to decrease the widespread proliferation of COVID-19.
- The City officials and officers have witnessed an increase in violations of State Executive Orders by restaurants within the City;
- The City Council finds that such actions jeopardize public safety and hinder the City’s goal to help minimize the spread of COVID-19 within the City.

Actions

Social Distancing in Restaurants Required

All restaurants in the City shall comply with the regulations pertaining to restaurants contained in Executive Order 09.30.20.01 issued by Governor Brian Kemp for the duration that such Executive Order is in effect and/or renewed. Among other things, Executive Order 10.30.20.01 mandates that restaurants:

- Require workers to wear face coverings when interacting with patrons;
- Redesign seating to ensure at least six (6) of separation from seating to seating or utilize physical barriers to separate groups of seating within 6 feet; and
- Do not allow patrons to congregate on restaurants or the curtilage thereof.

Restaurant Defined

“Restaurant” shall be defined under this Ordinance as any entity falling within the definition of a “food service establishment” as set forth under O.C.G.A. § 26-2-370(2), with the exception of food establishments in medical, nursing and long-term healthcare facilities.

Enforcement

Restaurants shall be issued a warning for their first violation of this Ordinance. Owners, operators, supervisors and managers of restaurants in violation of this Ordinance may be individually cited for such violation. Upon a restaurant's second or subsequent violation of this Ordinance, offenders shall be punished by a fine of One Hundred (\$100) per violation. Each separate incident of non-compliance at least an hour apart shall constitute a separate violation of this Ordinance.

Masks and/or Facial Coverings Strongly Encouraged throughout Entire City

All City residents and visitors are strongly encouraged to wear face masks and/or facial coverings as practicable while outside their homes or places of residence.

Instruction to Police Department

The City Police Department is hereby instructed to provide copies of this Ordinance to all licensed restaurants within the City within ten (10) days of the adoption of this Ordinance.

Quote:

"As the pandemic continues to impact our daily lives, many people simply want to return to a sense of normalcy and enjoy the activities they are used to. However, COVID-19 cases are climbing again and we must do everything in our power to minimize exposure and slow the spread of the virus. That includes practicing social distancing and wearing masks. We're in this together and, together, we will make it through this pandemic," **Mayor William "Bill" Edwards.**

II. ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 16, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO ENTERTAINMENT AT ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION ESTABLISHMENTS; ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES

Sponsor: Mayor William “Bill” Edwards

Date Adopted: Dec. 8, 2020

Justification

- The City Council wishes to update City alcohol regulations.
- This Ordinance is in the best interests of the health and general welfare of the City, its residents and general public.

Actions

Entertainment at on premises consumption establishments

- Bands, orchestras, pool tables, musical entertainment and/or patron dancing shall only be permitted at an alcohol licensed consumption on the premises establishment if the following conditions are met:
- Adequate space exists after consideration of required NFPA occupancy and seating;
- All fire and safety regulations are met;
- The appropriate license fee has been fully paid;
- The location installs and maintains security cameras in a secure location of a type and number approved by the chief of police. Such cameras:
 - Shall be capable of producing a retrievable image on film, tape, or any readable medium that can be made a permanent record and enlarged through projection or other means;
 - Shall be maintained in proper working order at all times and shall be subject to periodic inspection by the chief of police or his designee. If a robbery or other crime occurs in such outlet, the film or tape recording of such event shall immediately be made available to the chief of police or his designee;
- No more than six pool tables are located in the establishment; and
- The musical entertainment at the establishment may not be heard from a distance of more than 100 feet from the front and/or back doors of the establishment.
- Alcohol licensed consumption on the premise establishments which offer patron dancing and musical entertainment shall have at least two paid security officers, who are certified, registered and/or licensed by the state to provide security services, on duty, daily from 6 p.m. until the close of business.

Quote

“A thriving nightlife, when managed in way that ensures the safety and wellbeing of patrons, enhances a community’s quality of life by providing a place for residents to relax, interact and be entertained. We welcome that atmosphere in our city and will do everything we can to ensure residents remain safe while they have a good time,” **Mayor William “Bill” Edwards.**

III. A RESOLUTION PROMOTING REDEVELOPMENT AND REVITALIZATION WITHIN THE CITY; INITIATING EFFORTS FOR STATE OPPORTUNITY ZONE INCENTIVES AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES

Sponsor: Councilwoman Naeema Gilyard

Date Adopted: Dec. 8, 2020

Justification

- Sound and quality redevelopment and revitalization are vital to the quality of life for City of South Fulton's residents and businesses;
- State law allows governments which undertake redevelopment and revitalization efforts in certain older commercial and industrial areas to qualify those areas for job tax credits and other incentives;
- These areas are designated by the State Department of Community Affairs ("DCA") as State Opportunity Zones;
- DCA will consider designations for areas that are within or adjacent to a census block group with 15% or greater poverty where an enterprise zone or urban redevelopment plan exists;
- The City Council finds that application to DCA for designation of areas within the City that may qualify as a State Opportunity Zones with help promote sound and quality redevelopment and revitalization within the City;

Actions

The City Manager is hereby instructed to cause for the City to collaborate with and petition to DCA for designation of the City and/or any qualifying areas therein as a State Opportunity Zone.

Quote

"We have many historic areas that could become thriving residential, business and tourism hubs for the city. Earning state opportunity zone status for these areas will encourage developers to consider investing in these areas, making them attractive centers for living, shopping, dining and other activities that improve the quality of life for our city," **Councilwoman Naeema Gilyard, District 4**

IV. A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF SOUTH FULTON COMPLETE STREETS POLICY AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES

Sponsor: Councilwoman Catherine F. Rowell

Date Adopted: Dec. 7, 2020

Justification

- Streets are vital to the quality of life for City of South Fulton's residents, workers, businesses and visitors;
- The City Council desires to design, operate and maintain the City's streets to promote safe and convenient access and travel for all users – pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and people of all ages and abilities, as well as freight and motor vehicle drivers;
- The City Council finds that a street policy will help contribute to the creation of great places that are supported by safe and efficient transportation systems;

Actions

The City Council adopts the City of South Fulton Complete Streets Policy.

Quote

"A unified streets policy is the first step in ensuring safe travel through the city. We are taking that step today by setting in motion plans to design and maintain a first-class network of roads that allow residents and others to get to their destinations as safely as possible," **Councilwoman Catherine Foster Rowell, District 1.**